

Landfill Fund

Mission. The Landfill Fund supports the operating expenses of Brooks Landfill, solid waste disposal issues and environmental concerns.

Overview. Owned by the City, Brooks Landfill serves all of Sedgwick County. The landfill is on a 323-acre site located west of the Arkansas River and north of Highway K-96. It contains four cells for receiving solid waste. Cells A, B and C are no longer active and are closed. Cell D is the only active cell.

From 1966 until 1981, the landfill was City operated. In 1981, it was turned over to a private contractor for operations. It is open 362 days per year and 80 hours per week. An average of 1,500 tons of solid waste are received each day from 450 customers. The landfill processes approximately 200 disposal authorizations (issued by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment for special waste handling) annually. Two weekends of free landfill access for private vehicles are sponsored each year, averaging 6,000 vehicles per weekend.



Packer truck entering landfill.

Brooks Landfill was constructed many years before the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current regulations were enacted. The landfill does not meet the new EPA requirements and, therefore, does not have a valid permit to receive waste after October 9, 2001. After the landfill closes, tipping fee revenue will no longer be collected. To provide for post closure maintenance and environmental costs, tipping fee revenue is transferred annually to the Landfill Post Closure Trust Fund.

Finance and Operations. The City employs two inspectors to ensure compliance with solid waste regulations at the landfill. The landfill operator directs the solid waste disposal and is responsible to cover waste as it is disposed. In addition, the current operator is responsible for the closure of Cell D when the landfill closes.

Monitoring of groundwater quality surrounding the landfill revealed a plume of contamination. The containment and treatment of the contaminants presented a challenge due to imposed deadlines to plan and construct the necessary structures. The Groundwater Remediation System provides air-stripping containment and air sparging treatment of the contaminants. Both systems involve injection of air into the contaminated groundwater to volatilize (vaporize) the contaminants. The full-scale system became operational March 1, 1998. Tests have confirmed that groundwater leaving Brooks no longer has elevated contaminants and that 350 gallons per minute are cleaned and discharged into the Arkansas River. The air sparge system at Brooks is one of the largest in the country. The groundwater remediation system recently received the National Engineering Excellence Award by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers.

A landfill gas collection system was installed in 1998. The system collects methane gas generated at Brooks and pumps the gas 11 miles to High Plains Corporation where it is used to power equipment that produces ethanol. The landfill produces approximately 3 million cubic feet of methane gas each day.

New vegetative cover and drainage improvements are being constructed over Cell C in response to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements. These improvements will prevent future erosion of the topsoil.

The Household Hazardous Waste Program provides a drop off site for household hazardous waste such as herbicides, paints, and insecticides. This facility receives approximately 330 tons of hazardous waste per year, which would otherwise enter the landfill.

A pilot program for disposing of hazardous waste produced by small quantity generators (businesses that generate 55 pounds of hazardous waste or less each month) was initiated with Federal and State funds. When this funding ended, local funding was requested to continue the Small Quantity Generator program. Because the program had proven to be successful for diverting significant quantities of hazardous waste from Brooks Landfill, tipping fee revenue was approved to fund the program through 2001. The addition of an Environmental Quality Specialist position was authorized with this program expansion. A commitment for Sedgwick County funding will be required to continue this program after the landfill closes in 2001.

Revenues for operation of the landfill and solid waste programs are generated from tipping fees collected at the landfill and from rental of property adjacent to the landfill for agricultural purposes. A private contractor operates the landfill and collects the tipping fee revenue. The contractor retains \$5.84 of the \$26.00 per ton tipping fee; the State collects \$1; and the Landfill Fund receives the remaining \$19.16.

The 1999 and 2000 budgets reflect continuation of the \$26 per ton tipping fee through 2001. Revenues provide for closing the landfill; monitoring the groundwater remediation system; continuing the household hazardous waste program; upgrading the cap on Cell C; providing for an environmental education program; and maintaining the gas management system. The budget also includes funding for the neighborhood environmental court; a radiation detection program; the Christmas tree recycling program; numerous recycling centers located throughout the community; the

neighborhood/bulky waste cleanup program; and the transfer of funds to the Landfill Post Closure Trust Fund. When Brooks Landfill closes in 2001, the continuation of these programs will require an alternate funding source.

Programs Funded by Landfill Tipping Fees			
	1998	1999	2000
Household Hazardous Waste Program	155,527	440,000	440,000
Bulky Waste Program	72,545	75,000	75,000
Neighborhood Cleanup	25,899	75,000	75,000
Neighborhood Environmental Court	20,000	20,000	20,000
Environmental Education Program	153,430	222,700	222,700
Christmas Tree Recycling	36,000	50,000	50,000
Recycle Centers	114,000	119,700	119,700
Total	577,401	1,002,400	1,005,400

Landfill Fund Budget Summary					
	1998 Actual	1999 Adopted	1999 Revised	2000 Adopted	2001 Approved
Landfill Fund Revenue	10,829,901	9,829,300	10,252,170	9,958,180	7,258,780
Personal Services	198,225	203,720	244,230	259,790	258,720
Contractual Services	3,457,330	3,124,170	4,599,670	2,365,610	2,860,020
Commodities	47,003	47,770	60,620	60,620	60,620
Capital Outlay	2,063	0	8,000	0	410,000
Other	332,800	1,160,290	1,123,430	1,084,560	393,580
Transfer to Post Closure Trust Fund	6,000,000	10,000,000	8,500,000	11,000,000	3,641,835
Total Landfill Fund Expenditures	10,037,421	14,535,950	14,535,950	14,770,580	7,624,775
Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures	792,480	(4,706,650)	(4,283,780)	(4,812,400)	(365,995)
Landfill Fund Balance	9,462,175	697,895	5,178,395	365,995	0
Position Summary					
Total full-time	2	2	3	3	3
Total FTE	2	2	3	3	3